

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for reducing the communication overhead over the interface bus to the memory devices for refresh operations. This is done by refreshing multiple banks
5 in response to a single command. Multibank refresh is made possible by varying the current profile for the row sense and row precharge currents during a refresh operation, as compared to normal memory access. Unlike normal memory accesses, data is not needed, and a fast access time is not required. This allows the current to be spread using different circuitry for driving the current to lessen current spikes. The
10 spread current is still maintained within the timing of a normal memory access.